

REMARKS

The Examiner restricted the claims of the present application, as previously presented. In particular, the Examiner stated that Inventions I (original Claims 9-16) and II (Claims 36-39 that were newly submitted in the previous reply) are mutually distinct, and thus Claims 36-39 of Invention II are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention.

The Examiner stated that Claims 9-11 and 13-15 are allowable over the prior art of record. The Examiner also stated that the present application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of Claims 1-8 and 17-39 directed to a non-elected invention.

Non-elected Claims 1-8 and 17-39 are being canceled by way of the CLAIM LISTING above. Accordingly, the present application is in condition for allowance. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuing application to prosecute any of the non-elected claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that Claims 9-11 and 13-15 are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: *July 24, 2006*